REMARKS

The Applicant has amended claims 2 and 9 to correct the typographical error mentioned above such that claims 2-4 and 9-11 are allowable. Further, claim 15 has been canceled and claim 18 has been amended such that claims 18-20 are allowable.

Applicant respectfully submits that this response is a complete and thorough response to the Examiner's Office Action and respectfully requests allowance of the application. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful to the allowance of this application, a telephone conference is respectfully requested.

> Respectfully submitted, VINSON & ELKINS L.L.P.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited on the date shown below with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage as First Class Mail (37 CFR 1.8(a)), in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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